REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 1-20 are amended. Thus, claims 1-20 are active in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

I.   Substitute Specification and Abstract

The specification and abstract have been carefully reviewed and revised in order to correct grammatical and idiomatic errors in order to aid the Examiner in further consideration of the application. The amendments to the specification and abstract are incorporated in the attached substitute specification and abstract. No new matter has been added.

Also attached hereto is a marked-up version of the substitute specification and abstract illustrating the changes made to the original specification and abstract.

II.   Request for Acknowledgment of Foreign Priority

The Applicants note that the Examiner failed to acknowledge, in item 12 of the Office Action Summary form, the Applicants' claim of foreign priority based on Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-011251 and the receipt of the certified copy of the foreign priority document. A Claim of Priority and a certified copy of the foreign priority document were filed with the present application on January 17, 2002. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge the Applicants' Claim of Priority and the receipt of the certified copy of the foreign priority document.

III.   Request for Consideration of References Cited in an IDS

The Applicants note that an Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449, European Search Report and four references were filed on June 6, 2006, which is the same date that the Office Action issued. Accordingly, the Examiner did not have an opportunity to consider the seven references listed on the June 6, 2006 Form PTO-1449. The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the references listed on the June 6, 2006 Form PTO-1449 and to return an Examiner-initialed copy of the June 6, 2006 Form PTO-1449 to indicate consideration of the references listed thereon.

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IV.   35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

A.   In item 1 on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-6, 8-16 and 18-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aldred et al. (U.S. 6,209,036, hereinafter Aldred) in view of Maddalozzo, Jr. et al. (U.S. 6,460,060, hereinafter "Maddalozzo"). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

The present invention provides a hypertext displaying apparatus and program for downloading hypertext data from a server device coupled to the hypertext display apparatus via a network, and displaying a content represented by the hypertext data. The hypertext displaying apparatus includes, *inter alia*, the following technical features:

(1) displaying history storage means for storing a displaying history of at least one content represented by the hypertext data newly downloaded by the download means, wherein the displaying history is in accordance with an order in which the at least one content is displayed by the display means;

(2) redisplaying order control means for controlling, in accordance with the displaying history stored in the displaying history storage means, an order in which contents are redisplayed by the display means;

(3) when a content at a link destination indicated in <u>a source content represented by the hypertext data stored in the stored data storage means</u> is newly displayed by the display means, the <u>displaying history storage means stores a displaying history of the source content and one or more ensuing contents, where the displaying history is in accordance with an order in which the source content and the one or more ensuing contents are displayed by the display means</u>; and

(4) the redisplaying order control means <u>allows contents to be redisplayed by the display means in a sequential manner, at least back to the source content</u>.

The hypertext displaying apparatus of the present invention comprising the above features (1)-(4) has the following effects.

The stored data storage means stores a content according to the hypertext data downloaded from a server device. In the state where the stored content is displayed by the displayed means, when the user designates a link destination that is indicated in the

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content, a content which is associated with the link destination is displayed by the display means, and the displaying history of the stored content that is associated with the link destination and one or more ensuing contents are stored in the displaying history storage means. Further, the redisplaying order control means allows contents to be redisplayed by the display means in a sequential manner, at least back to the displayed content (i.e., a source content).

Therefore, when the user performs a button operation indicating a "previous content" instruction, the display means can redisplay contents in a sequential manner at least back to the source content (see, for example, the sequential change illustrated from (j), (i), (c), (b) to (a) in Figure 7). Accordingly, the present invention includes the distinguishing effects in that when the downloaded content is stored in the stored data storage means, the link destination that is indicated in the stored content is designated by the user, a content (i.e., newly-downloaded data) associated with the link destination is downloaded from the server device and the newly-downloaded data is displayed by the display means, the source content can be easily redisplayed by causing the user to only perform the button operation indicating the "previous content" instruction.

In conventional hypertext display apparatuses, if the user who has selected a link destination that is indicated in a particular stored content to download new hypertext data later desires to redisplay the particular stored content, the user must once return to a menu image, as shown as the middle image of Figure 22, and redisplay a listing of stored content from the menu content in order to select any of the stored contents from among the listing of stored contents. Thus, the conventional hypertext display apparatuses have an inherent problem in that returning to the listing of the stored contents once and then selecting a desired stored content is time-consuming and burdensome. This problem is especially burdensome if there is a large number of stored contents in the listing of the stored contents. In this case, it has been extremely difficult to successfully select desired stored content.

Furthermore, in the conventional hypertext display apparatuses, the user tends to intuitively believe that he or she should be able to redisplay stored contents by performing the "previous content" button operation. In actuality, however, as described in the Description of the Background Art section of the specification, the stored contents

cannot be redisplayed even if the user performs the "previous content" button operation. Instead, as illustrated in a transition of images as shown in Figure 22 (b) to (c) of the present application, an image immediately preceding the menu image is displayed. Therefore, if an image which is different from the image that the user intuitively believed would be displayed is displayed after a "previous content" button operation, the user will determine, due to the belief that the wrong image was displayed, that the operation performed by the user for redisplaying any desired stored content is extremely cumbersome, and that such an operation requires a number of operations before the desired stored content can eventually be displayed.

Moreover, for cellular phones that connect to the Internet, a connection fee is generally charged in proportion to the amount of time that the cellular phone user is connected to the Internet. Thus, if it takes a significant amount of time before the user can redisplay any desired stored content, the user will likely stop performing operations to redisplay the desired stored content. Furthermore, if the image that is displayed is different from the image that the user intuitively believed would be displayed due to a "previous content" button operation, the user who is unfamiliar with using the Internet or who is frustrated that the desired stored content is not being displayed when expected will often stop performing the operation to redisplay the desired stored contents before the user can figure out how to redisplay the desired stored content.

On the other hand, since the hypertext display apparatus of the present invention comprises the aforementioned technical features (1)-(4), the user performs the "previous content" button operation instruction to redisplay the stored contents as the user according to the user's intuitive belief of how they should be displayed. As a result, the present invention significantly reduces the tasks and time required for redisplaying the stored contents.

Claim 1 recites the hypertext display apparatus of the present invention, and claim 11 recites the hypertext display program of the present invention. Claims 1 and 11 recite features (1)-(4) above and achieve the remarkable effects as described above.

The Applicants respectfully submit that Maddalozzo and Aldred fail to disclose or suggest features (3)-(4) of claims 1 and 11.

Aldred discloses that a bookmark 20 corresponding to a web page 10 is provided in a computer 30, and that a hyperlink 50 causes the web page 10 to access another web page (see Figure 1).

As acknowledged by the Examiner, Aldred fails to disclose or suggest redisplaying order control means that allows contents to be redisplayed by a display means in a sequential manner, at least back to the source content. The Examiner contends that Maddalozzo discloses this feature of the present invention. However, the Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has misinterpreted the teachings of Maddalozzo.

Maddalozzo merely discloses that a plurality of web pages are displayed by operating "next/previous" buttons displayed on a screen. In other words, Maddalozzo merely discloses that a user can access a previously viewed content when pressing the "previous" button, and can redisplay a content that was viewed subsequent to the presently displayed content by pressing the "next" button. However, this feature of Maddalozzo results in the same problems of the conventional apparatuses described above.

The present invention, by including features (1)-(4) described above, quickly redisplays stored hypertext data by performing a simple button operation, when hypertext data representing contents is stored in a storage section of a hypertext display apparatus, the stored hypertext data is read from the storage section and displayed, a link destination indicated in the displayed hypertext is designated, and then the hypertext data provided at the link destination is displayed.

Aldred and Maddalozzo, however, clearly do not disclose or suggest:

(3) when a content at a link destination indicated in a source content represented by the hypertext data stored in the stored data storage means is newly displayed by the display means, the displaying history storage means stores a displaying history of the source content and one or more ensuing contents, where the displaying history is in accordance with an order in which the source content and the one or more ensuing contents are displayed by the display means; and

(4) the redisplaying order control means allows contents to be redisplayed by the display means in a sequential manner, at least back to the source content.

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 11, which recited features (3) and (4) are clearly patentable over Aldred and Maddalozzo since Aldred and Maddalozzo, either individually or in combination, clearly fail to disclose or suggest each and every limitation of claims 1 and 11.

Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 11 are clearly patentable over Aldred and Maddalozzo.

B. In item 10 on page 10 of the Office Action, claims 7, 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aldred et al. in view of Maddalozzo, Jr. et al. and further in view of Rubinstein et al. (U.S. 5,913,215, hereinafter "Rubenstein").

Similar to Aldred and Maddalozzo, Rubenstein also clearly fails to disclose or suggest features (3) and (4) of claims 1 and 11.

Therefore, no obvious combination of Aldred, Maddalozzo and Rubenstein would result in the inventions of claims 1 and 11 since Aldred, Maddalozzo and Rubenstein, either individually or in combination, clearly fail to disclose or suggest each and every limitation of claims 1 and 11.

Furthermore, it is submitted that the distinctions are such that a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would not have been motivated to modify Aldred, Maddalozzo and Rubenstein in such a manner as to result in, or otherwise render obvious, the present invention as recited in claims 1 and 11.

Therefore, it is submitted that the claims 1 and 11, as well as claims 2-10 and 12-20 which depend therefrom, are clearly allowable over the prior art as applied by the Examiner.
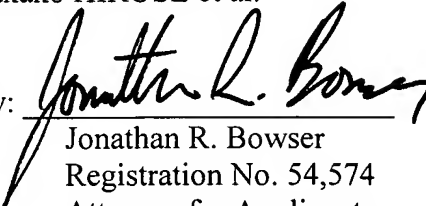
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is clearly in condition for allowance. An early notice thereof is respectfully solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

A fee and a Petition for a one-month Extension of Time are filed herewith pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.136(a).

Respectfully submitted,

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